

Application No. 09/362,022

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An improved ~~for~~halftone, for an electrostatographic system comprising:

a halftone cell including a plurality of original pixels further comprised of "on" and "off" pixels; and

at least one black auxiliary pixel ~~substituting for one of the plurality of original pixels of~~ placed around and exterior to the "on" pixels of the halftone cell to improve edge displacement or halo problems in the printing of the halftone cell.

2. (Currently Amended) The improved halftone of claim 1, wherein the black auxiliary pixel is placed near the corners of the halftone cell ~~comprises a "black" auxiliary pixel.~~

3. (Currently Amended) The improved halftone of claim 1, wherein the auxiliary pixel comprises a "white" auxiliary pixel substituting for one of the plurality of original pixels found in the corners of the halftone cell.

4. (Original) The improved halftone of claim 1, wherein the halftone cell is a clustered dot type.

5. (Original) The improved halftone of claim 1, wherein the halftone cell is a dispersed dot type.

6. (Original) The improved halftone of claim 4, wherein the clustered cell is a compact dot type.

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7. (Original) The improved halftone of claim 4, wherein the clustered cell is a spiral-dot type.

8. (Original) The improved halftone of claim 1, wherein the halftone cell is a stochastic type.

9. (Currently Amended) A method for improving the printing of an image in an electrostatographic system, said method comprising:

receiving a source image comprising original pixel data; and

processing the source image original pixel data with a halftone cell comprising embedded black auxiliary pixels and spaced at least one pixel outside the "on" pixels contained therein to improve edge displacement or halo problems in the printing of the image.

10. (Previously Presented) The method for improving the printing of an electrostatic image of claim 9, wherein the step of processing includes using halftone cells of a cluster dot type.

11. (Previously Presented) The method for improving the printing of an electrostatic image of claim 9, wherein the step of processing includes using halftone cells of a dispersed dot type.

12. (Previously Presented) The method for improving the printing of an electrostatic image of claim 9, wherein the step of processing includes using halftone cells of a stochastic type.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

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15. (Canceled)

16. (Canceled)

17. (Canceled)